

MIDDLETOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT

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SPECIAL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2020

5:00 P.M.

VIA WEBEX

1. Chairman Darnell Ford Calls Meeting to Order at 5:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilman Darnell Ford, Chairman
Councilwoman Meghan Carta
Councilman Anthony Mangiafico
Councilman Philip Pessina
Councilwoman Linda Salafia

STAFF PRESENT: William McKenna – Chief of Police
Michael Timbro – Deputy Chief of Police
Captain John Lozefski – Administrative Commander

2. Approval of Minutes – January 21, 2020 (*Regular Meeting*) & April 30, 2020 (*Special Meeting*)

Councilman Philip Pessina moved for approval of the Public Safety Commission (PSC) Minutes for Tuesday, January 21, 2020 (*Regular Meeting*); Seconded by Linda Salafia. There being no further discussion or objection, Motion approved.

3. Public Hearing – Matters on the Agenda Only

None

4. Correspondence

Chief William McKenna stated that he would put together the “Atta Boy” correspondence and E-mail them to the PSC.

He briefly spoke about the incident that occurred on Sunday, (*May 17, 2020*), where shots were fired, injuring three (3) adult males; and added how well it went in the (*Middlesex*) Hospital between the hospital staff and the MPD Officers during a chaotic time (*due to the Coronavirus being the primary medical emergency*).

5. Monthly Reports

Chief McKenna reported that due to the Coronavirus, most of the Officers have not taken time off; that an appropriation request will hopefully **not** be needed prior to the end of the (*2019-2020*) Fiscal Year. He added that an MOU (*Memorandum of Understanding*) has been approved between Mayor Benjamin Florsheim and the Police Union for the number of Officers who were unable to use their allotted Vacation Time; that as a result, they will have until December 31, 2020, to do so.

A brief discussion followed regarding the shootings. Also, Councilman Pessina requested that the PSC members be included in any Press Releases involving Public Safety. Chief McKenna advised that he believes the Common Council members are already included, but will make sure with Lieutenant Heather Desmond that it is.

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6. Old Business

a. Animal Shelter

Captain John Lozefski stated that the Animal Shelter went to the Mayor's Office, and they have the money allocated; that they're currently waiting for Pieper Olson's people to get their permits done; that they plan on breaking ground soon; and that he's been told they may be in there some time in August. He added that he's already contacted Portland's First Selectwoman (*Susan Bransfield*), notifying her that they will no longer be utilizing their services; and he'll be paying them on a quarterly basis starting July 1, 2020, if needed.

Captain Lozefski explained that an additional \$300,000.00 was appropriated in the current fiscal budget for the building cost and any of the construction work; that it was a 'front' for the next 15-year lease. He added that they're currently paying approximately \$40,000.00 per year; and with the 15-year lease, it will be knocked down to \$23,000.00 per year; that they will save approximately \$30,000.00 per year going this route.

7. New Business

a. Federal DEA Asset Forfeiture

Captain Lozefski explained that this is a grant confirmation regarding the Overtime Reimbursement for the Detective that's allotted so many hours per week; that the DEA reimburses the Department on a quarterly basis. Chief McKenna gave a brief overview on this Task Force and how it works.

8. Public Hearing Reopened – Other Matters

None

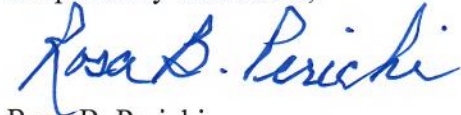
At this time, Councilman Pessina requested that Captain Lozefski update the PSC on the Firing Range Building at the next PSC Meeting.

9. Meeting Adjourned...

Chairman Ford adjourned the meeting at 5:29 P.M.

Next Public Safety Commission Meeting: Monday, June 15, 2020, 6:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



Rosa B. Perichi

Recording Secretary